

**Testimony in Support of SB 200**

**An Act Expanding Health Insurance Coverage of Specialized Formula**

**Insurance and Real Estate Committee**

**March 6, 2014**

My name is Zane Abdelsadek. I am seven years old and I live in Westport, CT. I have a disease called eosinophilic esophagitis. Eosinophils are white blood cells that attack things that are bad for my body. My white blood cells think food is bad and attacks my digestive system when I eat.

If I eat food I can vomit, stop breathing, get bad tummy aches and get very sick. I have had four surgeries and have been under general anesthesia more than twenty times. I get almost all of my nutrition from medical food through my feeding tube. It is pure amino acids so I don't get sick.

There is currently no cure for Eosinophilic Esophagitis and the only treatment is medical food and controlling your diet. You need a prescription for medical food – just like other medicines. Medical food keeps me healthy. My medical bills would be more expensive if I wasn't on medical food. I need it to live.

Please vote to expand medical food coverage.

Thank you.

Zane Abdelsadek  
Westport, CT